FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FEMA-DR-1443-MS-NR40

Date: December 3, 2002

MEDIA CONTACTS: MEMA - 601-960-9039 or 601-953-3622

FEMA - 662-329-7570

Disaster Recovery Center Changes Schedule

COLUMBUS, MS—State and federal officials announced that the joint federal/state Disaster Recovery Center (DRC) opened to assist those affected by the severe storms and tornadoes in November, will be closed Sundays beginning this weekend.

The DRC will remain open between the hours of 8 a.m. and 6 p.m., Monday through Saturday, until further notice.

The DRC, located in the former Lowe's Home Supply, 2320 Highway 45 North, is designed to provide more detailed information to people who have already applied for assistance by calling the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) toll-free number: 800-621-FEMA (3362) or TTY, 800-462-7585, for the speech or hearing impaired.

FEMA's toll-free numbers also can be used to get answers to your questions or to update your registration information.